

## ABSTRACT OF DISCLOSURE

An address management apparatus comprises a data link layer address storage unit for storing a data link layer address table showing the correspondences between data link layer addresses and network layer addresses; a data link layer address search unit for searching the address table for an unused data link layer address; a corresponding network layer address search unit for searching the address table for a network layer address corresponding to a specified data link layer address; a data link layer address assignment instruction unit for transmitting a data link layer address assignment instruction which includes, as information, at least the unused data link layer address, to a terminal specified by the network layer address detected by the corresponding network layer address search unit; a data link layer address updation unit for updating the correspondence between the data link layer address and the network layer address on the address table, according to the data link layer address assignment instruction; a data link layer address assignment instruction detection unit for detecting the data link layer address assignment instruction to obtain the data link layer address, in the terminal specified by the network layer address detected by the corresponding network layer address search unit; and a data link layer address setting unit for setting the data link layer address obtained by the detection unit, in the self terminal.